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To Correspondents (continued).

(though far from original) it is a question whether it would not have been better had you corrected the harmonies, and then performed it.

F. W. H.—We doubt very much our correspondent's power to teach himself harmony, even with the aid of any book.

A. B. C.—The meaning of the curved line depends very much upon circumstances. When it occurs over two notes, it places the accent upon the first; but we cannot, in our limited space, give a definite answer to the rest of our correspondent's enquiries.

Apollo.—Enquire at Messrs. Chappell's, 50, New Bond Street.

H. B. K.—Lablache's *Singing Tutor*, published at Messrs. Chappell's. We should think that your voice must be a bass; but this question should be determined by a competent professor, after a careful examination.

W. H. S.—We do not know any cheap editions of the special works you mention. Some of the most popular compositions of these writers are to be procured at a moderate price.

C. H. H.—In the very early overtures the "Trio" was played by two hautboys and a bassoon. The form of movement was afterwards admitted into the "Symphony," and joined with the "Minuet" or "Scherzo"; and its name has been retained, although its signification has long since been almost forgotten.

KEDNA.—We should think that any recognised publisher of flute music would be able to answer our correspondent's question.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ARKSEY.—On Monday, the 23rd Nov., a Concert was given in the endowed school-room, under the patronage of Sir W. Cooke, Bart., and the Rev. W. Gray, before a large and fashionable audience. The principal singers were Miss Harrison, Mrs. House, Mr. Yates, and Mr. J. Eyre, who were all highly effective in their solos. The Concert gave great satisfaction, and was an undoubted success.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—Handel's Oratorio, *Judas Maccabæus*, was given by the Choral Society on the 14th ult., with much success. The principal vocalists were Miss Whittaker, Miss Heywood. Mr. Eckersley, and Mr. Landor. All the solos were well given; but the air, "Pious orgies," and "From mighty kings," by Miss Whittaker, showed that accomplished singer to the utmost advantage; and Miss Heywood was also highly successful in the duets, and in the recitative, "O Judas, O my brethren." The choruses were well sung; and Mr. Whittaker deserves every credit for the manner in which he conducted the performance.

BEDFORD.—A highly successful performance of Handel's Oratorio, *Judas Maccabæus*, was given by the Amateur Musical Society, at the Assembly Rooms, on the 15th ult. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Liller, Miss Green, Miss Brereton, the Misses Crofts, Miss Lyon, Miss Sirett, the Misses Mitchell, Mr. Lloyd (principal tenor of St. Andrews, Wells-street), Mr. Alfred Howard, Mr. Bull, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Bywater, Mr. Clough, and the Revds. H. Wood and Brereton. All the solos were excellently given; and the exacting choruses with which this work abounds were sung with an energy and precision which reflected the utmost credit upon Professor Diemer, under whom the members of the Society have been trained. The orchestral department was thoroughly efficient; and included the names of several eminent London artists.

BEXLEY HEATH.—Mr. Gould's Annual Concert, at the Boys' National School-room, on the 9th ult.,

was, in every respect, highly successful. Madame Wells and Miss Franklein were much applauded in several vocal solos; and Mr. Farquharson gave universal satisfaction in all his songs, and also presided most efficiently at the pianoforte, in place of Miss Macirone, who was unavoidably absent.

Bow (E.).—On Tuesday, the 15th ult., Mr. Lloyd (late organist of Salem Chapel) gave his annual Concert in Latimer Chapel School-rooms. The first part of the programme consisted of sacred, and the second part of secular, music. Principal vocalists, Mrs. Marshall, Miss Lucy Newson, Miss Riseam, Master C. Hulbert, Mr. George Saunders, and Mr. F. A. Bridge. A small choir contributed several choruses, part-songs, &c. Mr. R. Coleman presided at the pianoforte, and Mr. T. Hodd conducted. The concert was well attended.

BOLTON.—The Philharmonic Society gave a very excellent performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, in the Temperance Hall, on the 24th of November, and on the 15th ult., an equally creditable representation of Handel's *Messiah*. For the former Oratorio, the principal vocalists were Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Galloway (pupil of Madame Rudersdorff), Madlle. Drasdil, Mr. Vernon Rigby, and Mr. Maybrick; and for the latter, Madame Lemmens Sherrington, Miss Meenan, Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. Orlando Christian. The choruses were extremely well given. Mr. Peter Staton was the conductor.

BRADENSTOKE-CUM-CLACK.—A most interesting Concert was given at the Parish School-room by the Vicar, the Rev. J. D. Hoysted, on the evening of Tuesday, November the 24th. The music was selected with great taste; and seemed to be thoroughly appreciated. The principal singers were Mrs. Fletcher, the Misses Russell, and the Revds. J. D. and C. Hoysted, who gave several vocal pieces with much effect. The choir has made good progress since last year (owing to the skilful training of Mr. Blake, the schoolmaster), and all the choral music was most successfully rendered. The proceeds of the Concert will be devoted to the building of an infant school-room, which is much needed.

BRADFORD.—At the second Concert of the Festival Choral Society for the season, Handel's Oratorio, *Israel in Egypt*, was performed with full band and chorus; and, in order to give effect to this grand choral composition, the Society was strengthened by members of the Leeds, Halifax, and Huddersfield Societies. The principal vocalists were Miss Poyntz, Mrs. Lincey-Nalton, Mr. C. Videon Harding, and Mr. C. Prince. Owing to illness, Mr. Winn could not appear, and his place was kindly taken, at a very short notice, by Mr. Thornton Wood. Mr. J. Burton was the conductor, Mr. Moorhouse presided at the organ, and Mr. Haddock led the band. The choruses were given with that energy and freshness, and due attention to light and shade, which have rendered the Yorkshire choristers so famous. The "Hailstone chorus," energetically attacked, and vigorously carried through, was, of course, redemanded. The only other *encore* was that accorded to Mrs. Lincey-Nalton, who sang the air, "Thou shalt bring them in," with true devotional feeling.

BRIDGENORTH.—Mr. Ellis Roberts, the celebrated harpist, lately gave a Concert in the Assembly Rooms. He was assisted by Misses Kate Roberts, Ellen Glanville, and Adelaide Newton. Mr. Ellis Roberts played a harp solo, "Cambria," which was much applauded; and Miss Kate Roberts well sustained her fame as a pianist, in a solo, and a duet with the harp.

BRIGHTON.—The Brighton Philharmonic Society gave a performance of Handel's *Samson*, in the Dome of the Pavilion on November 27th, before a large and fashionable audience. The principal vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. Orlando Christian. The new organ was used on this occasion. Mr. White conducted.

BRISTOL.—On the 30th Nov. a Concert, organised by Mr. R. Jones, was given at Colston Hall, the principal feature of which was the *Stabat Mater* of Rossini, commemorative of the recent decease of the composer. The vocalists were the Misses Foote, Mr. G. Perren, and Mr. Merrick. All the music was most efficiently performed; the chorus especially giving proof of the most careful training. The second part consisted of a miscellaneous selection; and between the parts the "Dead March," in *Saul*, was played as a mark of respect to the late Rossini. Herr Pfeiffer was leader of the band; and Mr. R. Jones was the conductor.

BURY-ST.-EDMUNDS.—On Tuesday evening, the 24th Nov., the St. Mary's Choir Glee and Madrigal Society gave its first Concert for the season. The programme was well selected; and the large hall was crowded in every part. The various pieces were rendered by the members in such a manner as to call forth numerous *encores*; and the skilful and indefatigable conductor, Mr. T. B. Richardson, organist of the parish church, was warmly complimented on the rapid improvement the Society has made under his direction. The attraction of the programme was greatly enhanced by the singing of a lady amateur, who gave several songs with much effect.

CLIFTON.—The Cecilian Choir gave the first Concert of its second season at the Victoria Rooms, on the 10th ult., with the utmost success. The first part consisted exclusively of Mendelssohn's compositions; and included the Psalm, "Hear my prayer," the soprano solo of which was sung with much feeling by Miss Raggett, the Eight-part Psalm, "Judge me, O God," and the "Ave Maria," "Vintage Song," and *finale* from the unfinished opera, *Loreley*. All these pieces were given with a precision and energy which created a marked effect upon the audience, the "Vintage Song" eliciting a spontaneous and enthusiastic *encore*. The solo in the *finale* was rendered most brilliantly by Miss J. E. Pennington. The second part contained some excellent Part-music; amongst the most successful of which were Macfarren's *Summer and Winter* (the latter *encored*), Barnby's "Sweet and low" (which was similarly honoured), Pinsuti's "The sea hath its pearls," Mendelssohn's *Departure*, and Mozart's *Ave Verum*. Mr. Trimmell conducted most carefully; and his efforts were well seconded by the members of the choir.—The Tyrolean singers lately gave a morning Concert at the Victoria-rooms, and attracted a large audience. They were attired in the picturesque costumes of the Tyrol, in which they appeared before her Majesty and the Royal family, and their songs were also national, and combined with no inconsiderable musical excellence, the great charm of novelty.—The tenth half-yearly Concert given by the Pupils of the Clifton Ladies' College, was held on Tuesday, the 15th ult., in the presence of above 150 of the parents and friends of the young ladies. The programme was divided into two parts, the first containing a selection of sacred, and the second of secular, music. The vocal solos were, without exception, excellently rendered, as were also several instrumental pieces; and Mendelssohn's "Scotch Symphony," arranged for the occasion as a sextuor by Mr. S. Rootham (music-master of the College), was highly effective. The concert concluded with the National Anthem.

DARLINGTON.—The *Messiah* was given here, on the 17th ult., in the Central Hall; the attendance was very large, and the performance a great success. Madame Rudersdorf, Miss Stirling, Mr. W. H. Cummings, and Mr. O. Christian, were the principals engaged: solo trumpet, Mr. Wood. The band and chorus consisted of 130 performers. Mr. Marshall was the conductor.

DONCASTER.—The second of this season's entertainments, in connection with the Young Men's Christian Association, was given on the 1st ult. The vocalists were Miss Harrison, Mrs. House, of Sheffield,

Mr. Firth, and Mr. Eyre. Three old glees, "Awake, Æolian lyre" (Danby), "Here, in cool grot and mossy cell" (Mornington), and "Sleep, gentle lady," were well sung; and Glover's "When shall we meet," by the two lady vocalists, and "Janet's Choice," given by Mrs. House, were especially worthy of mention. A very successful reading was given by the Rev. H. C. Russell; and the entertainment afforded the utmost pleasure to a large audience.

DUNDEE.—The Choral Union gave its first Concert for the season at the Kinnaird Hall, on the 15th ult., before a large audience. The programme was taken from that of the miscellaneous concert at the Handel Festival of this year. The chorus singing presented all those characteristics which have gained for the Society the high position it holds in Dundee. The solo vocalists were Miss Edith Wynne, and Madlle. Drasdil, both of whom fully sustained their well-earned reputation. The organ performance of Mr. W. T. Best was of course a great, if not the greatest, feature of the concert. Besides the accompaniments to the voices, he played the "Occasional Overture," and the organ concerto, in G minor, from Handel's first six. Both were executed with consummate skill, and truly musician-like feeling; and the concerto was so exquisitely played as to produce perhaps even greater effect than the first, and better known, work. Mr. Best's first visit to Dundee will not be easily forgotten by those who can appreciate the highest style of organ playing; and there can be little doubt that his second appearance will be anxiously looked forward to by many.

EDINBURGH.—One of those very enjoyable organ performances which Professor Oakeley has been in the habit of giving during the musical season, took place, on the 3rd ult., in the Music Class-room, Park Place. There was a good attendance, and all present appeared fully to appreciate and enjoy the treat provided for them. The programme contained an excellent selection of classical music. The fine instrument, whose capabilities Professor Oakeley is so well able to exemplify, has recently undergone some improvements, while others are in the process of being effected.

GRAHAMSTOWN, AUSTRALIA.—At St. George's Hall, a very excellent performance, consisting exclusively of selections from *Elijah*, has been given with decided success. The professional vocalists were Miss Hirst, Madame Leffler, and Mr. H. Harper; and the members of the St. George's Choir who took principal parts in the Oratorio, were Messrs. Kay, Mehliiss and Mingay. Madame Leffler produced a marked effect in all her vocal solos; and Mr. H. Harper, who took most of the music of the Prophet, was equally successful. Miss Hirst also sang well, in spite of being somewhat out of voice; and the choruses were effectively given throughout.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—Successful as have been the previous entertainments of the Musical Society, that which took place on the 3rd ult., was unquestionably the best. Haydn's Oratorio, *The Creation*, was performed; and the manner in which the work was executed, showed not only careful training and management by the directors, but great and creditable attention on the part of the artists. The band and chorus numbered about 160, under the able conductorship of Mr. Stonex. Mr. Tunbridge was accompanist; and the principal vocalists were Madame Talbot-Cherer, Mr. George Perren, and Mr. Farquharson. The solos were well given; and the choruses were executed with the greatest correctness and expression.

GREENWICH.—The Saturday Popular Entertainments, at the Lecture Hall, under the management of Messrs. Hunt and Thornton, still continue to draw crowded houses. The principal vocalists have been Miss Ellen Glanville, Messrs. Hopwood Leslie, Walter Reeves, F. Thornton, and Weller. The manner in which these concerts have hitherto been conducted reflects great credit on the management.

GRIMSBY.—On the 25th November the Grimsby Choral Society gave a successful Concert at the Town-hall. The first part was selected from Handel, and the second part was devoted to Romberg's *Lay of the Bell*. The solos were well rendered by Mrs. Temple, Miss Broadhead, Miss Gatril, Messrs. Smethurst, Liller, Robinson and Reed; and the choruses, under the able direction of Mr. S. B. Smith, were most satisfactorily given. Mr. Kew was leader of the band; and Mr. James Bennett presided at the organ.

HALIFAX.—An effort is now being made to renovate the organ in the Parish Church. The instrument was originally one of the finest in the country; and Mr. Hill (from London), who has minutely inspected it, guarantees that for £600 it may be made fully capable of sustaining its former reputation. Mr. Hill's report has been laid before the organ trustees.

HEREFORD.—The Christmas Concert of the Choral Society was held on the 21st ult., at the College Hall, before a numerous audience. The programme was entirely selected from Handel's Oratorio, *Samson*. The members of the Society gave ample evidence of the careful training of Mr. Townshend Smith, their indefatigable teacher and honorary conductor, every chorus being given with a decision and energy in the highest degree creditable. The solos were also well sung by the Misses E. and L. Broad, Mr. Robinson, and the Rev. W. V. Duncombe. Miss Ellen Broad's rendering of "Let the bright seraphim," Mr. Robinson's pathetic delivery of "Total eclipse," and the Rev. W. V. Duncombe's singing of "Honour and arms," should be specially mentioned as interesting features in a highly successful concert.

HIGHNAM.—The annual Concert of the Choral Society took place in the School-room, on the 16th ult. The principal vocalists were Miss Augusta Clarke and Mr. Abraham Thomas. The choruses and songs were generally well rendered. The instrumental part included the overtures to *Figaro* and *L'Italiana*, both of which appeared to be much enjoyed by the audience.

HOUSLOW.—Mr. F. A. Sangster gave his third Annual Concert at the Town Hall, on the 15th ult. The artists were Miss Constance Vernon, Miss Annie Vernon, Messrs. Lander, Spencer, W. H. Hunt, and Mr. John Cheshire, R. A. M. Several vocal pieces were given with much effect; and Mr. Cheshire (harp), Mr. Sangster (piano-forte), and Mr. Spencer (clarinet), were received with rapturous applause in their respective solos. Mr. Sangster was also highly successful in a ballad, "Let me be near thee."

HUDDERSFIELD.—The fine organ in Ramsden Street Chapel, built by the late Mr. Renn, of Manchester, is now in the hands of Messrs. Conacher and Co., of Huddersfield. It will receive considerable additions and improvements, under the direction of Mr. Mellor, the organist, who has headed the subscription list with £50; and, when completed, the new swell organ will be the largest in the town or neighbourhood.

HULL.—The Harmonic Society gave a successful performance of Handel's Cantata, *Alexander's Feast*, with a selection of miscellaneous music, at the Music Hall, on the 18th ult. The vocalists were Miss Hiles (who fully sustained her reputation as a singer competent to grapple with the highest class of music), Mr. Birtles, and Mr. Brandon; the latter of whom displayed his voice to the utmost advantage in the song, "Revenge, Timotheus cries." Mr. Stephenson conducted; and Miss Hair and Mr. Robert Wilson presided at the organ and harmonium respectively; the band being led by Mr. Fielder.

LANCASTER.—The new organ at St. John's (obtained through the munificence of the late Miss Tatham), built by Mr. C. Brindley, of Sheffield, was opened on the 21st ult. Dr. Henry Hiles presided at the instrument, and displayed its fine capabilities with his

usual skill. The choir was strengthened by members of the parish church choir, and the anthem was "O taste and see how gracious the Lord is."

LEAMINGTON.—The Philharmonic Society gave its first Concert for the present season at the Music Hall, Bath Street, on the 10th ult. The first part contained a selection from Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*, and the second part was secular and miscellaneous. The principal vocalists were Miss Francis, Miss Appleford, Mr. J. Rose, and Mr. J. Barnett, whose rendering of "Sound an alarm," was highly successful. Mr. H. A. Heden led the band; and Mr. R. Ward conducted. The concert was thoroughly satisfactory, and most creditable to the Society, when it is considered that no professional vocalists were engaged.

LEEDS.—The Leeds Amateur Vocal Association gave its Annual *Soirée* in the Town-hall, on the 15th ult. Mendelssohn's music to *Antigone* was given in its complete form; and, considering that the Society consists exclusively of young amateurs, the performance was a highly creditable one. The few bass solo recitatives were well sung by Mr. Wilkinson, a well known amateur, and the Rev. G. B. Porteous, curate of Burley Church, read the *libretto* with much intelligence. Every credit is due to Mr. Dodds, the conductor, for the excellent manner in which he has trained the choir. The overture and accompaniments were, on the whole, satisfactorily given by Mr. Haddock's band.—An interesting Concert was given at the Town Hall, on the 22nd ult., the programme entirely consisting of Christmas Anthems, Carols, &c. Dr. S. S. Wesley's fine Anthem, "Blessed be the Lord God," and Gounod's new Noël, "O Sing to God," produced a marked effect with the audience; and, indeed, every work, including Dr. Spark's Christmas-piece, excellently played on the grand organ—was in the highest degree successful. The choral music was given by the Town Hall Choir, of forty selected voices, and the solo vocalists were Miss Winder (soprano), and Mr. C. V. Harding (tenor). Dr. Spark conducted.

LEICESTER.—On Friday, the 11th ult., a Piano-forte recital of classical music was given by Mr. Landergan (organist of St. Mary's Church, Leicester), at the Temperance Hall, assisted by the following artists:—Madame Martorelli-Garcia and Signor Gustave Garcia. Violin Mr. H. Farmer (Nottingham), flute, Mr. Henry Nicholson. The programme contained selections from the works of Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Haydn, Hummel, Bach, &c. The local press speaks highly of the programme and the performers. The proceeds of the concert were to be handed over to a local charity.

LEIGHTON, BUCKS.—The Leighton and Linslade Choral Society gave a performance of *Judas Maccabeus*, on Thursday evening the 17th ult., at the Corn Exchange. Artists, Miss Susanna Cole, Miss Mary Ann Potter, Mr. E. Lloyd and Mr. Wm. Roebuck. Leader, Mr. Inwards; harmonium, Mr. Anderton; conductor, Mr. Charles D. Mortimer. The concert was, in every respect, successful.

LIVERPOOL.—The Musical Society gave its third performance at St. George's Hall, on the 27th November, when the *Creation* was given, the principal vocalists being Miss Cecilia Westbrook, Mr. Kerr Gedge, and Mr. Winn, with full band and chorus. The house was full, and the audience seemed well pleased. The Fourth Concert for the year, the *Messiah*, was to take place last night (New Year's-eve). The two earlier concerts were *Joshua* and *Samson*. Mr. C. B. Herrman leads the band, Mr. James Sanders conducts; and Mr. W. T. Best is the organist.—The Eleventh Concert of the Philharmonic Society, which took place on the 1st ult., was a very interesting one, introducing to this audience Mr. Benedict's Cantata, *Richard Cœur de Lion*, a picturesque and musician-like work, well performed by Mesdles. Titiens and Sandrina, Messrs. Cummings and Sant-ley, with the choral addition of the practical members of

the society. The second part of the concert was "in memoriam," entirely devoted to the compositions of Rossini, the latest departed of the great masters of music. The Overture to *William Tell* was vehemently encored; and the whole performance was much applauded.

LUTON.—An Entertainment, by invitation, was given by the Choral Society, at the Wesleyan School-room, Chapel-street, on Wednesday evening, the 16th ult. Mrs. Bickerton presided at the piano; Mr. Southam officiated as leader; and Mr. Joseph Hawkes as conductor. Mr. John Bontwood performed the duties of chairman. About thirty voices took part in the programme, which was chiefly selected from the standard Oratorios. The solos were given by Miss Kingham, Messrs. Payne, H. Hawkes, and Underwood.

MANCHESTER.—The Tonic Sol-fa Association gave a Concert in the Free-trade Hall, on the 12th ult. The choir consisted of 500 certificated singers, pupils of the various classes who have reached a certain point of proficiency; and their singing, in some highly classical music, which severely tested their powers, was in the utmost degree satisfactory. Messrs. J. Lloyd and E. Corkill conducted the Concert; and Mr. Henry Walker accompanied on the organ, and played three solos, which were much applauded. — The Second Concert of the Manchester Vocal Society took place on the 27th November, before a crowded audience. The programme, which contained a choice collection of pair-songs, glees and choruses, was excellently rendered throughout: and solos were also well given by Mrs. Moseley, Miss Clelland, Messrs. Lightoller, and James Taylor.

MARLBOROUGH.—An excellent Concert was given in the Town-hall, on the 1st ult., by Mr. W. S. Bambridge, A.R.A., organist of Marlborough College. The vocalists were Mrs. H. Barnby, Miss Cecilia Westbrook, Mrs. Osborne Williams, and Mr. Wallace Wells; and the instrumentalists, Mr. Bambridge (pianoforte), and Mr. W. H. Aylward (violoncello). The vocal solos were highly successful; and the masterly pianoforte and violoncello performance of Messrs. Bambridge and Aylward were prominent features in the Concert.

MIDDLESBURGH.—The Choral Society gave a performance of Handel's *Messiah*, on Friday evening, the 18th ult., with great success. The band and chorus, augmented by members of the Darlington Choral Union, numbered upwards of 200, including Mr. T. Harper, of London, the trumpet player. The solo vocalists were Madame Rudersdorff, Miss Sterling, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Christian, all of whom sang admirably. Considering that the Society has only been in existence thirteen months, such a successful *débüt* in Oratorio reflects the highest credit on the talented young conductor, Herr Franz Groenings, who is doing much for music in Middlesburgh.

MUCH WENLOCK.—The first Concert of this season was given in the Corn Exchange on Friday, the 27th Nov. The principal performers were Mrs. Hayward, Mr. R. Bartholomew, organist of Ludlow, Mr. Bevington, and the Coalbrookdale Glee Singers. Mr. Bartholomew's two solos on the harmonium were well given; and Mrs. Hayward's songs were all encored. The cornet and violin solos by Mr. Bevington were capitally rendered; as were also the glees by the Coalbrookdale party. In a pecuniary point of view, the Concert was a failure; in every other respect it was a decided success.

NORTHAMPTON.—On the 8th ult., Mr. Ellis Roberts, the harpist, gave an entertainment at the Lecture Hall, to a numerous audience. He was assisted by Miss Ellen Glanville, Miss Jenny Pratt, and Mr. R. S. Barratt. Mr. Roberts is now making a tour in Wales, accompanied by Misses Ellen Glanville, Adelaide Newton, and Kate Roberts.

OSSETT.—On Monday evening, the 7th ult., the members of the Choral Society gave a performance of Handel's *Messiah* in the Assembly room. The following artists were engaged: Miss Helena Walker, Mrs. Crosland, Mr. Moulding, and Mr. Clifton. The band and chorus numbered seventy performers; the execution of the Oratorio gave general satisfaction to a numerous audience.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Tuesday, the 15th ult., the Borough Choral Society gave its annual performance of the *Messiah*, the band and chorus numbering 150 performers. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Conduit, Miss Gertrude Mayfield, Mr. Kerr Gedge, and Mr. Robinson. Mr. Godwin Fowles conducted in his usual efficient manner; and, to the gratification of those assembled, used the silver *bâton* which was lately presented to him by the Society.

RAWTENSTALL.—On the 16th ult., the Choral Union gave a performance of Handel's *Judas Maccabeus*. The principal vocalists were Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Madlle. Meenan, Mr. Nelson Varley, and Mr. Brandon. Madame Sherrington was highly successful in all her solos; and Madlle. Meenan gave the pieces allotted to her with true musicianlike feeling. Mr. Nelson Varley and Mr. Brandon were also most satisfactory in the whole of their trying music; and the choruses were given throughout with a precision and energy which fully justified the high reputation of the choir. M. Lemmens presided at the organ with his usual ability.

READING.—Miss H. R. Binfield gave her Annual Concert at the Town Hall, on Tuesday evening the 8th ult. The principal vocalists were, Madlle. Drasdil, Madame Suchet Champion, Mr. Vernon Rigby, Mr. S. Champion, and Signor Caravoglia; and the instrumentalists, Signori Piatti and Tito Mattei, and Mr. Lazarus. Madlle. Drasdil's singing was much admired, and Mr. Vernon Rigby, who made his first appearance in Reading on the occasion, was also highly successful. Herr Wilhelm Ganz was the conductor. The thanks of Reading and the neighbourhood, are certainly due to Miss Binfield for providing so rich a musical treat.

SALISBURY.—At the final Concert of the Sarum Choral Society, Haydn's Oratorio, *The Creation*, was selected. The chorus was supplied by the members of the Society; the orchestra (including Mr. Henry Blagrove) was thoroughly efficient in every department; and the principal vocalists were Miss Eleanor Armstrong, Mr. W. H. Cummings, and Mr. Renwick. The performance (under the direction of Mr. Richardson, the Cathedral organist) was, in every respect, highly satisfactory. The room was crowded.

SHEFFIELD.—On Monday, the 7th ult., Mr. Freemantle gave a Concert in the Music-hall. The instrumentalists were principally selected from Mr. C. Halle's band, with the addition of two or three performers of local celebrity. Miss Hiles was the only vocalist engaged, and sang several songs with much success. Mr. Freemantle was conductor, and Mr. S. Hiles leader of the band.

SHERBORNE, DORSET.—On Tuesday evening, the 24th November, a Concert was given by the Sherborne Philharmonic Society, before a large and appreciative audience. The first part of the programme consisted of sacred, and the second of secular music. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Goldsmith, Miss Baumann, Miss Ffooks, Miss Coward, Mr. Howell, and Mr. A. Goldsmith, all of whom were received with the utmost favour in the music allotted to them. Amongst the choruses, "Sing unto God," from Handel's *Judas*, must be especially mentioned. It was well sung, and reflected the utmost credit upon the training of the conductor, Edward Herbert, Mus. Bac. Oxon. — On Tuesday evening, the 15th ult., a Concert was given by the members of the

Sherborne Philharmonic Society, which was attended by a highly respectable audience. The first part of the programme consisted of sacred, and the second part of secular, music. The principal vocalists were Miss Baumann, Miss Coward, Miss Ffooks, Messrs. Howell, H. Goldsmith, Croad, Calder, &c. A part-song, for men's voices, "The Letter," Hutton, received an enthusiastic encore; and the choruses were all well given. We are pleased to hear that the members of the Society are getting up a testimonial for their talented conductor, Mr. Herbert, who spares no labour on their behalf.

ST. LEONARDS-ON-SEA.—Miss Florence Braye gave a pianoforte recital to a large audience. at the Assembly Rooms, on Thursday, the 10th ult. She gave selections from Weber, Scarlatti, Bach, Hummel, Mendelssohn, and Liszt, with great brilliancy and finish. Much regret was felt at Miss Braye's retirement from the profession, this being her last appearance. Miss Braye was ably assisted in the vocal department by Miss Fanny Holland.

STREATHAM.—A Miscellaneous Concert was given, on Monday evening, the 23rd Nov., by the Immanuel Church Choral Society, assisted by Miss Mabel Brent, Mr. A. Thomas (a pupil of Mr. J. G. Boardman), and Mr. M. Gardner. The programme was divided into two parts, sacred and secular. Miss M. Brent met with a most enthusiastic reception, and received several encores; and Mr. A. Thomas was also highly successful. The choruses and part-songs were exceedingly well rendered. The Concert was conducted by Mr. W. George.

SYDNEY (N. S. WALES).—The Sixth Concert of the Civil Service Musical Society was given at the Masonic Hall, on Thursday, 17th September. There was a mixed choir of 54 voices (the ladies of which are friends or relatives of members), and a band of twenty instruments. The overtures to *La Dame Blanche* and *Der Freischütz*, were rendered with great precision; and several choruses were given with much effect. The defect in the programme was that it contained too many vocal solos. Mr. Douglas Callen conducted, and Mr. W. Stanley was the accompanist. The hall was crowded in every part.

TAVISTOCK.—The first anniversary of the opening of the handsome New Church, erected at Titzford, through the munificence of His Grace the Duke of Bedford, was commemorated on Thursday, the 26th Nov., when a very appropriate sermon was preached to a large congregation by the Rev. N. Haly, of Ivybridge. During the service the choir sang King's evening service in F; an anthem, "The earth is the Lord's," R. A. Smith; together with the hymns "Father of Heaven," Beethoven; "Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah"; and a new tune, composed by Mr. G. N. Partridge, the choirmaster, whose labours have been very successful. A *Kyrie* by Haydn, and the *Gloria* from Mozart's 12th Mass were performed as opening and concluding voluntaries by Mrs. Partridge, the organist of the church.—On Wednesday evening, the 2nd ult., an excellent lecture on Sacred Music was delivered by Mr. C. V. Bridgman, to a large audience in the Town Hall, in aid of the funds of the National Schools. The illustrations were rendered in good style by the united choirs of the parish church and new church, under the conductorship of Mr. J. F. Thynne, to whom and to Mr. G. N. Partridge, the respective choirmasters, all credit is due, for the result of their efforts. At the conclusion a vote of thanks was passed to all who had helped to such a successful issue. The programme comprised selections from Handel, Mendelssohn, Calcott, Weber, Auber, and Haydn.

WELLS.—Mr. J. N. Hemsley lately gave a Concert of Sacred Music at the Town-hall, which was fashionably, but not fully, attended. The selections, on the whole, were most satisfactorily performed. The principal vocalists were Miss Armytage, (who gave

Haydn's "With verdure clad" with much effect), Mr. Kearton (who displayed an excellent tenor voice), Mr. Drayton, and Mr. Hemsley, who sang with much taste and feeling. There was a small, but efficient band, under the leadership of Mr. Rumsey. Mr. C. W. Lavington, organist of the Cathedral, conducted the performance with energy and judgment.

WENTWORTH.—On the 3rd ult. a Musical Entertainment was given in the Mechanics' Institute, under the auspices of the committee of the Wentworth Cricket Club. The glees and part-songs were well rendered; and the singing of Miss Harrison and Mrs. House was much admired. Mr. Poller and Mr. Birtle also sang with good effect. The programme was pleasantly varied by duets on the pianoforte, by Miss Massey and Miss Odling, of Hooker Hall, and also a duet (piano and violin), by Miss Falding and Mr. Butcher. The hall was crowded to excess; and the Concert evidently gave great satisfaction.

WINDSOR.—On the 10th ult., the Windsor and Eton Choral Society gave its first Concert for the season at the Town Hall, when Handel's Oratorio, *Samson*, was performed. Miss Emily Spiller, although labouring under indisposition, sang with much effect; Mr. W. T. Briggs was highly successful, especially in the air "Honour and arms," and Mr. T. Hunt, in "Total eclipse," received loud and well-deserved applause. The choruses were excellently given throughout, and Dr. Elvey conducted with his usual skill and judgment.

The Windsor and Eton Amateur Madrigal Society, held its first Concert on the 15th ult., when an excellent programme was provided. The complete success which attended the performance of the music on this occasion will, we trust, embolden this young Society to continue its appeals to the public. The members of the association have a brilliant future before them, if they will devote the necessary time and energy to study. The performance was given under the able direction of Dr. Elvey.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Alfred B. Hassett, to St. Thomas' Church, Charles Street, Hackney Road. —Mr. Naylin, late of Kettering and St. James' the Great, Haydock, to Rainhill Parish Church, Lancashire. —Miss Orr, to the Congregational Church, High-street Deptford. —Mr. Frederic Earnshaw, to King Edward's Schools, St. George's Road, Southwark.

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